

CN 47

SPORT - SWEDES, BRITISH WITHDRAW FROM LEIPZIG ATHLETICS

STOCKHOLM, AUG 22 (UPI)--THE SWEDISH TRACK AND FIELD ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCED WEDNESDAY WITHDRAWAL OF ITS SQUAD FROM THE EUROPEAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS SCHEDULED FOR LEIPZIG, EAST GERMANY, THIS WEEKEND, BECAUSE OF THE SITUATION IN EASTERN EUROPE.

THE SQUAD OF 11 ATHLETES AND FOUR OFFICIALS WAS GATHERED IN MALMOE AND WAS TO HAVE LEFT BY AIR LAST NIGHT.

THE BRITISH TEAM PULLED OUT WEDNESDAY MORNING AND OTHER ASSOCIATIONS WERE BELIEVED LIKELY TO FOLLOW SUIT.

AT LEAST TWO WEST EUROPEAN TEAMS, THE DUTCH AND SPANISH, HOWEVER, ALREADY HAVE LEFT FOR LEIPZIG--THE DUTCH BEFORE THEY HAD TIME TO CONSIDER THE SITUATION AND THE SPANISH IN SPITE OF IT.

THE DANISH BOARD WITHDREW ITS TEAM OF FOUR MEN AND TWO WOMEN AND A SPOKESMAN SAID HE BELIEVED THE CHAMPIONSHIPS WOULD HAVE TO BE ABANDONED.

CHAIRMAN EIGIL KRAGH TOLD UPI "I HAVE JUST HAD A TELEPHONE CALL FROM THE DANISH REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATHLETIC BOARD WHO IS IN LEIPZIG, EMANUEL ROSE, AND HE IS VERY PESSIMISTIC."

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